

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The Lakota Nation Invitational was first organized in 1976 as a tournament consisting of eight basketball teams with the intention of bringing American Indian youth together in preparation for the basketball season ahead; and,

Whereas, Co-founders Bryan Brewer and Chuck Cuny made the decision to move the tournament to Rapid City early on, in hopes of promoting better racial relations and understanding in the local community and beyond; and,

Whereas, Over the last four decades, the Lakota Nation Invitational has experienced exponential growth and recognition that greatly exceeds initial hopes for a small scale sporting event; and,

Whereas, Today, the Lakota Nation Invitational welcomes tens of thousands of individuals in person or online to the foot of the scenic and sacred Black Hills in Rapid City; and,

Whereas, The Lakota Nation Invitational has expanded from the initial 8 organized basketball teams in 1976 to 32 teams in 2016; and,

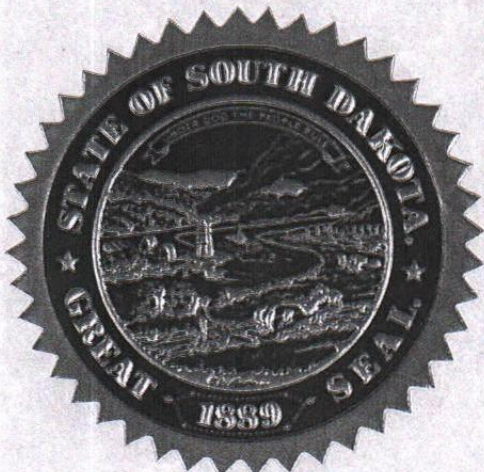
Whereas, In addition to a basketball tournament, the Lakota Nation Invitational has grown to include volleyball, cross-country, hand games, cheerleading, business plans, wrestling, a powwow, a Lakota language bowl, art shows, a knowledge bowl, a poetry slam, and more; and,

Whereas, The benefits of the Lakota Nation Invitational are plentiful and visible in the respectful competition among athletes and fans, in the continued improvement of racial relations and understanding, and in the abundant and beneficial economic impact experienced in the community as a result of the Lakota Nation Invitational:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim December 16, 2016, as the

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAKOTA NATION INVITATIONAL

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-ninth Day of November in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs
Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State